

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ANTANA 00894 120903Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /028 W

-----130622Z 048516/11

R 120703Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY ANTANANARIVO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9210

CONFIDENTIAL ANTANANARIVO 0894

E.O. 11652:N/A - DECLASSIFIED UPON RECEIPT

TAGS: PINT, MA

SUBJECT: MADAGASCAR LOCAL ELECTIONS: THE PATTERN CONTINUES

REF: ANTANANARIVO 0640 AND PREVIOUS

1. NOT SURPRISINGLY, PATTERN SET IN MARCH 20 AND SUBSEQUENT LOCAL ELECTIONS WAS REPEATED IN ELECTIONS MAY 8 TO CHOOSE POPULAR COUNCILS FOR 104 FIVONDRONAM-POKONTANY (FORMER SUB-PREFECTURES AND MUNICIPAL COUNCILS). WITH ELECTION RESULTS 29 PER CENT COMPLETE, PRESIDENT RATSIRAKA'S PARTY AREMA HAS TAKEN 79 PER CENT OF THE ABAILABLE SEATS, LEAVING 20 PER CENT TO THE AKFM. AKFM HAS CAPTURED 27 OF THE 40 SEATS ON THE ANTANANARIVO MUNICIPAL COUNCIL AND ABOUT 28 PER CENT OF THE SEATS IN ANTANANARIVO PROVINCE. IN SEVERAL AREAS, VONJY AND UDECMA HAVE RUN COALITION CANDIDATES WITH THE AKFM SO THAT SOME APPARENT AKFM VICTORIES RECORDED ABOVE ARE IN FACT COALITION VICTORIES. AS THEY HAVE DONE IN ALL BUT THE FIRST ELECTIONS MARCH 20, MONIMA DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE MAY 8 ELECTIONS, ALTHOUGH IN MAJUNGA THEY REPORTEDLY ENCOURAGED THEIR UVT SUPPORTERS TO VOTE FOR THE AKFM/VONJY COALITION.

2. NEXT MAJOR ELECTION WILL BE ON MAY 29 WHEN NEWLY ELECTED FIVONDRONAM-POKONTANY POPULAR COUNCILS WILL CHOOSE THE 6 FARITANY (OR PROVINCE) POPULAR COUNCILS. IT IS EXPECTED THAT GENERAL ELECTIONS FOR NATIONAL POPULAR ASSEMBLY WILL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ANTANA 00894 120903Z

OCCUR SOMETIME DURING JUNE.

3. COMMENT: WELL ESTABLISHED PATTERN WILL PROBABLY REPEAT ITSELF ONCE AGAIN IN MAY 29TH ELECTION. EMBASSY FINDS INTERESTING THE COALITION OF THE THREE MINORITY PARTIES IN THEIR ATTEMPT TO SLOW THE AREMA STEAM ROLLER. IT APPEARS THAT WHAT WE HAVE HERE IS A DE FACTO OPPOSITION PARTY DEVELOPING

WITHIN THE NATIONAL FRONT.SMITH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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ISecure: 1
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